



SCHOOL WITHIN-A- SCHOOL

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RUTGERS SECOND HOME FOR 19 SWAS SENIORS

by Forrest McCloud

Those SWAS seniors who look like they are sneaking out of the building at all hours are in reality leaving for Rutgers-Newark, where they are participating in the part-time High School Scholars Program.

Joseph Malanga, history teacher at SWAS, brought the program to the attention of Dr. Charles Pine of Rutgers, last April. Dr. Pine was very impressed with SWAS and his enthusiasm was further enhanced when he taught an accelerated math course for the seniors during July at Malcolm X.

As a result, 19 SWAS seniors were accepted into the program which is open to all academically talented seniors throughout the state. The SWAS contingent is the largest from any single school in New Jersey. The students take one or two regular college courses during their senior year, thus earning advanced credits.

Despite the age difference in some of the more advanced courses, the SWAS students are regarded as regular college students and, moreover, view themselves that way. Any other attitude would result in failure.

Valerie Hazelton, who takes a course in political science, says, "It seems that college is just a building where you go to learn, whereas high school is more of a home away from home. It was easier to become a part of high school." There is much to substantiate this thought and many students do find some difficulty in adjusting to college life. However, the students are doing well and, judging by their performances to date, the future looks very bright for the SWAS seniors.

SWAS NEWSLETTER

Published monthly as a service to the students, parents, and friends of the School Within a School.

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Gloria Sheldon

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Mr. Seymour Spiegel

RAFFLES TO BE SOLD TO AID SCHOLARSHIP FUND

To raise money to meet the myriad needs of the SWAS program, the PTSA is sponsoring a raffle. Bamberger's department store in Newark has donated a 19" Motorola color television as first prize. Second prize will be a General Electric toaster, and third prize will be a serving tray.

Raffles will be sold for 25¢ each, and the final drawing will be held at the PTSA meeting on Dec. 12, in time for Christmas.

The success of this fund-raising venture depends on all students, parents, teachers, and friends of the SWAS program. Therefore, the P.T.S.A. voted to assess each family for \$10 worth of raffle tickets, with the understanding that the family may choose to sell the raffles or purchase them themselves.

The proceeds, which can run into thousands of dollars if maximum effort is put forth, will provide scholarships, educational materials, trips and other worthwhile experiences for our students.

CALCULUS CHALLENGES FOR SWAS STUDENTS AT N.C.E.

by Anna Eng

"Calculus is a very esoteric subject, but the students are adapting," states Dr. William Savin, Associate Professor of Physics at Newark College of Engineering, with reference to the 19 SWAS seniors attending a college-level calculus-physics course at the college. The advanced-placement work is sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloane Foundation.

Using differential and integral calculus, the program, brainstormed by Dr. Arnold Allentuck, Director of Research at N.C.E., Dr. Savin, and Seymour Spiegel, director of SWAS, attempts to illustrate the importance of mathematics in the physical world.

"Hopefully, the program will be continued with a grant from the National Science Association," stated Dr. Savin.

DIVERSIFIED SUMMER PROGRAM
OFFERED TO SWAS STUDENTS

by Sharon Harris

Students who did not go away for their summer education spent their summer studying many diversified subjects at SWAS.

SENIORS: Mrs. Sheldon and Mr. Lowenstein taught a survey course in Crime and the Criminal Justice System. Students, including the juniors, visited such places as the 5th Precinct, where Sgt. Williams lectured on the workings of the police force; the municipal courts, where Judges Hazelwood and Booker were most helpful; the Parole Board; the Legal Aid Society, etc. Students completed the course by preparing a research paper on such topics as juvenile crime, the rights of the accused, etc.

In chemistry, the seniors took a mini-course in life science and consumer education, using science to analyze consumer products. Each student chose an item, bought two or three brands, and analyzed them. Some areas tested were flourides in toothpastes, detergents vs. soaps, danger of lead poisoning in dinnerware, and vitamin content of juices. The students visited Bristol-Meyers and other research laboratories.

Language students delved more deeply into their country of study, seeing films and even visiting French and Spanish restaurants.

JUNIORS: The juniors did advanced work in algebra with Mr. Green, including quadratic relations, trigonometric functions, and an introduction to geometry.

Mrs. Dangel's French classes visited the Frick Museum, saw films on French Africa and Haiti, and had lunch at La Crepe in Manhattan.

SOPHOMORES: The Middle Ages was studied by the sophomores, under the direction of Mr. Coppola and Mr. Cunningham. Classroom work was done in the morning, and library research in the afternoon. The class visited The Cloisters, a museum of medieval art and architecture.

The sophomores studied math at the Prudential, learning about the insurance industry and the actuarial math used by insurance people.

The language classes of Mrs. Ramos studied French literature, wrote original compositions which they then taped, visited a French restaurant, and learned some native dances.

FRESHMEN: The new SWAS students studied biology with Mrs. Bergman, becoming familiar with lab techniques. They visited the Great Swamp near Morristown, N.J., made slides, and used the microscope in their study of cellular life.

In English, the freshmen concentrated on fundamentals of grammar and composition. In math, those students needing review of fundamentals were given such a course, while others started their study of algebra.

MEET THE INTERNS

by Deborah Wilkie

Under a working arrangement with Rutgers University, SWAS has been designated a Teacher Training Center, which results in several teaching interns being on hand most of the year. Three of the current teachers-in-training are:

GREGORY STUART A graduate of Central High School in Newark, Mr. Stuart has always wanted to teach history, and is now getting his opportunity, working with Mr. Coppola. Mr. Stuart received his B.S. from Rutgers and is now working for his certification. He hopes to continue on to earn an M.A. in some aspect of education.

"I think SWAS is a marvelous program. The teachers are well-informed and there is great respect and rapport between the teachers and students, which I feel aids the learning process."

A lifelong resident of Newark, Mr. Stuart hopes to teach permanently in the city. His special area of interest is the period between Reconstruction and post-Reconstruction, in the Civil War era.

PROCTER SMITH: Working with Mr. Cunningham is English intern Procter Smith. A graduate of St. Paul's School in Concord, N.H., Mr. Smith thinks, "SWAS is a great concept and the students are highly motivated toward work and eventual college." Furthermore, he commented, "SWAS students are highly disciplined due to their realization of their 'golden opportunity' in SWAS."

Later in the year, Mr. Smith will teach a course on "The Beats," a group of writers who arose during the 50's and whose writing represents an objection to and rejection of what they saw in society.

Among Mr. Smith's hobbies are playing the piano, creative writing, gardening, sailing, and tennis.

BEVERLY WEST Our current mathematics intern, working with Mr. Roje, is Beverly West, a graduate of Orange High School.

"I was aware of the value of the SWAS program prior to my entrance as an intern. My involvement has enhanced my opinion of the program, which I hope will achieve its highest goals."

A lifelong resident of Orange, Miss West hopes to earn both an M.A. and a doctorate in urban affairs.

NEWS FROM THE TEAMS

FRESHMAN: Ralph Coppola, ninth grade team leader and history teacher, reports that the humanities classes are tracing the development of man and his societies, relating it to the major disciplines which govern the study of history. To correlate with this, Mrs. Gloria Forster is teaching her English classes The Admirable Crichton, a play which shows how men's roles in society change during a shipwreck.

On Oct. 11, the group went to the Museum of Natural History in New York to see man's earliest stages. Also included was a visit to the Planetarium.

SOPHOMORE: The Renaissance is under study by the sophomore Humanities classes, with Mrs. Sheldon's English classes reading The Agony and the Ecstasy, the biography of Michaelangelo, while Mr. Lowenstein's history classes explore the events that made this period the beginning of the modern era. The film of the novel was shown Oct. 26 at the Newark Public Library, and trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York is planned for Nov. 17, to see the art of the Renaissance, as well as African and Oriental art, as the non-Western world will be the next topic studied.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR: Several units are being offered by the upper-class humanities team. Included are "Hamlet" and "Appreciation of Poetry" taught by Mr. Cunningham; The Constitution" and "The Civil Rights Movement", taught by Mr. Malanga; and "College Composition" and "Historical Biographies"; taught by Miss Barbara Locke. The six-week units are open to both juniors and seniors. During the next six weeks, another group of courses will be offered.

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS AND FUN MARK FIRST SWAS PICNIC

The air was full of the aroma of cooking hamburgers and hot dogs, flying footballs, and the shouts and laughs of 150 picnickers on Saturday, Sept. 16. The occasion was the first annual picnic of the SWAS PTSA.

The picnic was the brainchild of Mrs. Delores Cunningham, part-time SWAS language teacher, who thought it would be a good idea for there to be an informal, social, outdoor get-together at the beginning of the academic year.

Held at Summit Field in the South Mountain Reservation, the picnic was an enjoyable experience for all. Students, parents, and faculty were all well-represented. Sports activities (which raised some notable thirsts) included kickball, softball, football, and Scrabble.

Good food, good weather, and good fellowship combined to produce a memorable day, and the start of a new tradition for SWAS.

PTSA FORGING AHEAD IN NEW YEAR

The SWAS PTSA met in July, August, September and October, continuing the vital business of integrating parents into every facet of school life.

The profit on the June dinner dance was a healthy \$552.00, which has been added to the Scholarship fund.

A fund-raising raffle will be held during November and December, with the final drawing Dec. 12. First prize is a color TV donated by Bamberger's.

The parents also had occasion to meet with Dr. Pfeffer and Miss David at the Board of Education offices during August to clarify certain teacher-hiring procedures as relates to SWAS.

Many reports were made during the meetings, including several on the SWAS summer programs; Mr. Young reported on what juniors and seniors must do as first steps toward college; new programs and concepts were introduced by Mr. Spiegel.

At the last meeting, new officers were elected, as follows:

President: Mrs. Gladys M. Ray
Vice-Pres.: Mr. Clarence Wright
Recording Secy.: Mrs. Delores Davis
Treasurer: Eliza Kirby
Financial Secy.: Mrs. Betty McEachin
Asst. Treasurer: Mrs. Lillian Denard.

Also elected to the Executive Committee were Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Lane, Mr. Furr, and Mr. Young, in addition to representative students.

The next PTSA meeting is scheduled for the third Tuesday in November. All parents are urged to attend. At the last meeting, over 200 parents were on hand, which makes the organization highly effective in all of its programs.

SWAS ADVISORY BOARD SEEKS NEW METHODS

The first meeting of the SWAS Advisory Board for this academic year was held on Wednesday, October 4, at the Western Electric Gateway building.

Chaired by Mr. Julius Foster of Western Electric, the meeting focused on the nature and function of the Board. The fundamental questions raised were: what should the Board do, where should its priorities be set, and how can it best serve the SWAS program in general. Committees were formed to tackle these organizational problems.

All segments of the Board's varied composition -- faculty, parents, students, and business and community representatives -- were present for this initial meeting.

SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL

SUBJECT OF

NATIONWIDE PUBLICITY

IN McCALL'S MAGAZINE

Following is a reprint of an article which appeared in the "Right On" section of McCall's, a national magazine for women. As a result, SWAS has received much favorable publicity, including many letters and requests for information about our program from all over the country.

Mc CALL
MAGAZINE

October Edition - 1972
RIGHT NOW
PAGE - 67

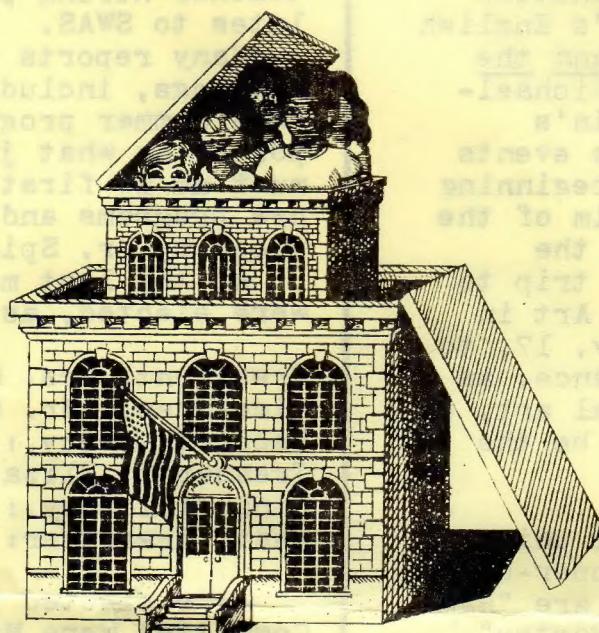
A Haven for the Super-Bright

Last year a report issued by the U.S. Commissioner of Education noted that throughout the nation educational programs for the gifted child are assigned a "very low priority." And, it went on to say, such programs are practically nonexistent for the gifted child who also happens to be a member of a minority group. Yet, three years before the government studies confirmed the suspicions of many educators, Newark, New Jersey, a city whose population is 54 percent black, had already decided to do something to help its academically gifted students.

School Within a School (SWAS), as the project was named, is now in its fourth year. It is a continuing attempt to prove that, with proper motivation and quality instruction, inner-city children can overcome their home and environmental difficulties.

SWAS is quite literally a school within a school. Its students, now 400 strong and drawn by competitive examination from all over Newark, attend classes in Malcolm X Shabazz High School, an old, fortresslike building in a neighborhood that has not yet recovered from the 1967 riots. More than 98 percent of the SWAS students, in grades nine through 12, are black.

Next June, School Within a School will graduate its first class. These 60-some teen-agers have studied 11 months a year. They've struggled through a rugged, if stimulating, curriculum including four years of humanities (English, history, art and music), four years of a modern language, four years of mathematics and science. And although it's still too early for the graduates-to-be to have college acceptances in hand, their median scores in recent college boards were well above the national mean. Twelve of them scored in the 90th percentile



or higher.

The students following along behind the Class of '73 seem to be responding equally well to the innovative curriculum, which makes use of such techniques as team teaching, flexible scheduling ("no bells") and independent study projects. This past summer 14 students won scholarships to a prestigious six-week program in Environmental Field Studies and Urban Studies at

the Gill School in Bernardsville, New Jersey. Six students won scholarships to the summer Encampment for Citizenship in San Antonio, Texas.

At least part of the program's success must be credited to the parents. From the beginning, parents have attended meetings in record numbers. They sit on the school's advisory board, and the Parents' Association has been involved in the selec-

tion of textbooks and the hiring of teachers, as well as in fund-raising activities.

School Within a School has aroused its share of controversy—both at Malcolm X and in the larger Newark community. Although SWAS students make up a minority of the 1,700-member student body, they dominate many of the school's extracurricular activities, and they are beginning to draw resentment from the regular students. On the other hand, a recent Mayor's Task Force report credited the program with keeping Malcolm X free of the unrest that plagues other urban schools.

Within the city there are some who are not at all sure that fostering "an academic elite" deserves support when there are so many other pupils who need remedial help.

This year, as the Class of '73 makes final preparation for college, should prove to be an important one for the program. SWAS director, Seymour Spiegel, expects 100 percent college acceptance. "And," he says, "most of the kids are trying for the best colleges." In the meantime, Theresa David, Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Charge of Secondary Education, notes, "The educational community of Newark is proud of School Within a School's achievements."

—Carole G. Rogers

DID YOU KNOW...

...that textbooks for the seniors attending Rutgers are supplied by SWAS? The cost so far has been over \$900.

...that Mrs. McEachin is teaching a brand-new course in biochemistry? To prepare for the course, 32 microscopes had to be reconditioned, at a cost of \$8.00 each. The seniors enrolled in the course expect to be able to use the Rutgers-Newark biology labs on a twice-a-week basis.

...that Mr. Young's college guidance classes, which meet twice a week during ninth period, are very well-attended? He is attempting to help each junior and senior select just the right college, based on his interests and abilities.

...that Forrest McCloud is a National Merit Scholarship finalist? The talented SWAS senior scored well over 500 on both the English and math sections of the P.S.A.T. test.